

MASS. J1.2 - In 1/2



FEB 13 1991

University of Massachusetts  
Repository Copy

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

Suffolk, ss.

Supreme Judicial Court

IN THE MATTER OF THE BOSTON MUNICIPAL COURT  
DEPARTMENT OF THE TRIAL COURT

ORDER

It has come to the attention of the Justices that preferential treatment allegedly afforded to certain attorneys by some justices of the Boston Municipal Court Department of the Trial Court (Boston Municipal Court) is a matter of concern to the public and to all members of the judicial branch. The Chief Justice and the Justices of this Court, concerned not only with the proper and efficient conduct of judicial affairs, but also with the public's perception of the integrity of the judicial process, have determined that a prompt, full inquiry into the practices and procedures of the Boston Municipal Court Department as they relate to these allegations should be undertaken immediately. Now therefore, pursuant to the constitutional and statutory powers of general superintendence of the Justices of this Court,

IT IS ORDERED that:

I. (a) Paul R. Sugarman, Esquire of Boston be, and hereby is, appointed Special Master and Commissioner to conduct a prompt and thorough administrative inquiry into alleged improprieties with respect to preferential treatment of attorneys by certain Justices of the Boston Municipal Court and to file with this

904/360



Court, within ninety days of this date, or as soon as possible, a report of his findings, conclusions, and recommendations.

(b) the Special Master and Commissioner shall also make such recommendations as he may deem appropriate to the Supreme Judicial Court with respect to indications or findings of misconduct, if any, on the part of any Justice, officer or employee of the Boston Municipal Court; and

(c) the Special Master and Commissioner shall have, in addition to the usual powers of a Special Master and Commissioner, the power to subpoena witnesses and to administer oaths.

Paul J. Leacor

Herbert P. Wilkins

Ruth I. Abrams

Joseph M. Moran

Neil J. [unclear]

Francis P. Connor

John M. Greaney



Digitized by the Internet Archive  
in 2014

<https://archive.org/details/inmatterofboston00mass>